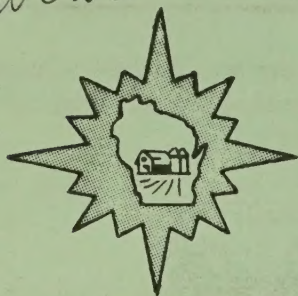


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WISCONSIN *Farm Reporter*

- Dairy
- Crops
- Livestock

Vol. XIII, No. 3

January 1981

Cream of the News

Milk production in both Wisconsin and the Nation during December was up 4 percent from a year earlier.

Wholesale prices of butter in December were higher than the previous month, but cheddar cheese prices declined.

Weekly estimates for December indicated that American cheese and butter production would continue well above the previous year.

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers in December were up 1 cent from November but \$1.29 above December 1979.

Cold storage stocks of butter and cheese in the Nation at the end of 1980 were substantially higher than a year earlier and the largest for that date in several years.

Lower prices for most livestock and crops caused the index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers to decline 2 points from November to December.

The number of farms in Wisconsin as of January 1 did not decline from the previous year for the first time since 1947.

Wisconsin had another good crop production year in 1980, led by record crops of corn and soybeans.

A planting intentions survey of 16 southern states for 1981 indicated a decline of 2 percent in corn acreage from 1980 but a 1 percent increase for soybeans.

Feeder pig prices in Wisconsin for November 1980 were up \$7.00 from August and \$24.00 higher than the previous year.

The number of cattle on feed in the 23 major feeding states January 1 was 5 percent below a year ago.

Prices of barrows and gilts at Wisconsin packing plants and country buying stations declined during December but were \$5.51 above a year earlier.

MILK PRODUCTION REMAINS HIGHER

Milk production in Wisconsin and the Nation during December remained above a year earlier. Dairy herds in Wisconsin produced 1.8 billion pounds of milk during December, up 4 percent from the previous year. Production per cow averaged 990 pounds for December, a gain of 30 pounds from December 1979. The 1,819,000 milk cows on farms during December were the most since March 1973. Milk production increased seasonally 7 percent from November to December compared with a 6 percent gain for those months in 1979.

The Nation's milk production for December totaled 10.4 billion pounds, also 4 percent more than a year earlier. Production per cow averaged 958 pounds, up 27 pounds from December 1979. The 10.9 million milk cows on the Nation's farms in December were 1 percent more than the previous year.

Grain and other concentrates fed to milk cows in the Nation on January 1 averaged 15.6 pounds per cow compared with 15.4 pounds a year ago. The costs of grains and other concentrates fed to milk cows on January 1 averaged \$8.35 per hundredweight, an increase of \$1.35 from a year earlier.

Wisconsin farmers reported feeding an average of 14.3 pounds of grain and other concentrates per milk cow on January 1, a decline of one-half pound from that date in 1979. The value of the State's concentrate ration was \$7.00 per 100 pounds, an increase of 80 cents from January 1 last year.

Milk Production

Selected States	December 1979	December 1980	Jan.-Dec. 1980	Change from last year	
				Dec.	Jan.-Dec.
	Million pounds			Percent	
Wisconsin . . .	1,740	1,801	22,526	+ 4	+ 3
Minnesota . . .	748	770	9,391	+ 3	+ 3
New York . . .	875	888	10,940	+ 1	+ 2
Pennsylvania . .	675	718	8,496	+ 6	+ 5
California . . .	1,040	1,102	13,497	+ 6	+ 8
Other states . .	4,983	5,159	63,259	+ 4	+ 3
United States .	10,061	10,438	128,109	+ 4	+ 4

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DECEMBER MILK PRICE SHOWS LITTLE CHANGE

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers for milk sold in December were expected to average \$13.65 a hundredweight. This would be only 1 cent above November but \$1.29 more than a year earlier.

The November milk price of \$13.64 a hundredweight was up 24 cents from October and \$1.24 higher than the previous year. Milkfat content for November averaged 3.87 percent compared with 3.89 percent in November 1979.

Milk for the Grade A market returned an average of \$13.78 a hundredweight in November, a gain of 28 cents from the previous month and \$1.22 above a year earlier.

Manufacturing grade milk averaged \$13.28 a hundredweight for November, up 11 cents from October and \$1.26 more than November 1979. The 3.5 percent base price for manu-

Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	October 1980		November price per cwt.			Dec. 1980 price per cwt. 2/
	Average test	Price per cwt.	1979	1980	80/79 change	
	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin	3.84	13.40	12.40	13.64	+ 10	13.65
Minnesota	3.72	12.92	12.01	13.24	+ 10	13.40
New York	3.69	14.10	12.90	14.10	+ 9	13.90
California	3.60	13.50	12.30	14.00	+ 14	14.10
United States . .	3.72	13.70	12.90	14.00	+ 9	14.00
Wisconsin utilization						
Market milk . . .	3.82	13.50	12.56	13.78	+ 10	XXX
Manufacturing milk	3.88	13.17	12.02	13.28	+ 10	XXX
Creameries . . .	3.87	13.14	11.87	13.28	+ 12	XXX
Cheese factories	3.88	13.19	12.04	13.29	+ 10	XXX
Varied prod. plants	3.85	12.99	11.92	13.16	+ 10	XXX

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	Nov. 1979	Oct. 1980	Nov. 1980 2/	Change from last year
	Dollars per cwt.			Percent
Market milk	12.01	12.96	13.17	+ 10
Manufacturing milk	11.47	12.59	12.64	+ 10
Creameries	11.34	12.58	12.64	+ 11
American cheese plants	11.49	12.58	12.61	+ 10
Varied products plants	11.37	12.46	12.56	+ 10
Federal Order Markets				
Chicago Regional Base Zone . .	11.87	12.81	12.94	+ 9

1/Computed using milkfat differential. 2/Preliminary.

— PUBLISHED MONTHLY —

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facturing grade milk in November was \$12.64 a hundredweight, 16 cents below the government support price.

CHEESE AND BUTTER PRODUCTION CONTINUES ABOVE A YEAR EARLIER

Cheese and butter production in Wisconsin and the Nation during November remained substantially higher than the previous year. Total cheese production for the Nation in November was up 9 percent from a year earlier as increases for the various types of cheese ranged from 7 to 10 percent. Dairy plants in Wisconsin produced 73.7 million pounds of American cheese during November, a gain of 9 percent from November 1979. Output of American cheese in Minnesota was up 6 percent, Iowa had an increase of 12 percent, and other states produced 13 percent more American cheese than a year ago.

Butter production in the Nation for November was 12 percent greater than in November 1979. Although Wisconsin showed only a 2 percent increase, output was up 22 percent in Minnesota, 14 percent in California, and 15 percent in other states.

Production of cottage cheese in the Nation during November was below a year earlier except for lowfat cottage cheese which was up 10 percent. The National ice cream production in November was down 2 percent from the previous year, although Wisconsin had an increase of 13 percent.

Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	November 1979	November 1980	Jan.-Nov. 1980	Change from last year	
				Nov.	Jan.-Nov.
	1,000 pounds			Percent	
BUTTER					
Wisconsin	20,877	21,300	265,800	+ 2	+ 13
Minnesota	9,960	12,200	148,905	+ 22	+ 4
California	12,251	14,000	170,400	+ 14	+ 27
Other states	32,666	37,429	455,269	+ 15	+ 17
United States	75,754	84,929	1,040,374	+ 12	+ 16
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin	67,786	73,700	905,000	+ 9	+ 6
Minnesota	33,906	36,100	408,670	+ 6	+ 7
Iowa	6,833	7,640	87,065	+ 12	- 1
Other states	52,851	59,784	752,695	+ 13	+ 10
United States	161,376	177,224	2,153,430	+ 10	+ 7
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss	15,395	16,558	200,841	+ 8	+ 2
Brick and Muenster	6,451	6,890	74,068	+ 7	+ 5
Italian	74,172	80,530	885,729	+ 9	+ 4
All other	31,654	33,773	286,197	+ 7	+ 4
Total	127,672	137,751	1,446,835	+ 8	+ 4
ALL CHEESE					
United States	289,048	314,975	3,600,265	+ 9	+ 6
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/	50,480	48,726	620,209	- 3	+ 1
Creamed 2/	63,834	59,052	769,562	- 7	- 1
Lowfat 3/	11,868	13,073	161,778	+ 10	+ 11
ICE CREAM					
	1,000 gallons			Percent	
Wisconsin	1,239	1,400	18,300	+ 13	+ 9
Illinois	2,576	2,410	37,180	- 6	+ 4
Iowa	931	890	12,101	- 4	- 4
Michigan	2,130	1,900	33,150	- 11	+ 7
Minnesota	2,299	2,020	27,900	- 12	- 9
Other states	46,698	46,034	646,023	- 1	+ 2
United States	55,873	54,654	774,654	- 2	+ 2

1/Mostly used for processing into creamed or lowfat cottage cheese. 2/Fat content 4 percent or more. 3/Fat content less than 4 percent.

CHEESE STOCKS UP 11 PERCENT

Cold storage stocks of cheese in the Nation at the end of 1980 totaled 568.7 million pounds, 11 percent above a year earlier and a record high for that date. American cheese stocks, at 466.8 million pounds, were up 15 percent from December 31, 1979. Stocks of Swiss cheese at the end of December were 8 percent below the previous year, while all other cheese stocks declined 3 percent.

The Government owned 76.7 million pounds of American cheese at the end of 1980 compared with only 2.8 million pounds a year earlier. Wisconsin had 197.4 million pounds of American cheese in storage on December 31, down 10 percent from the previous year.

The Nation's butter stocks totaled 302.7 million pounds at the end of December, up 70 percent from a year ago and the highest for that date since 1962. Government butter stocks amounted to 265 million pounds, 74 percent above a year earlier. Wisconsin had 33.3 million pounds of butter in cold storage December 31, an increase of 67 percent from that date in 1979.

Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese

Commodity	Dec. 31 1978	Dec. 31 1979	Dec. 31 1980	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
	UNITED STATES			
Butter	206,930	177,760	302,659	+ 70
Cheese, American	357,938	406,489	466,821	+ 15
Cheese, Swiss	12,290	14,295	13,196	- 8
Cheese, all other	66,144	91,342	88,712	- 3
Cheese, total	436,372	512,126	568,729	+ 11
	WISCONSIN			
Butter	21,602	19,964	33,281	+ 67
Cheese, American	181,939	219,362	197,356	- 10
	GOVERNMENT STOCKS*			
Butter	191,776	152,589	264,961	+ 74
Cheese, American	8,855	2,754	76,710	XXX

*Included in above totals.

Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products, United States

Commodity	Nov. 30 1978	Nov. 30 1979	Nov. 30 1980	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
Dried whole milk	3,721	4,910	5,871	+ 20
Dried skim milk	37,373	85,885	71,920	- 16
Dried buttermilk	2,224	4,131	5,997	+ 45
Condensed milk and evaporated milk (case goods) 1/ . .	84,383	88,441	75,553	- 15

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual plant operations.

WHOLESALE BUTTER PRICE UP SLIGHTLY

Wholesale prices of 92-score butter at the New York market averaged nearly \$1.54 a pound in December, an increase of about one-third cent from the previous month and more than 17 cents above a year earlier.

Cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks averaged \$1.40 a pound at Wisconsin assembly points during December. This was a decline of nearly one-half cent from November but 15 cents

higher than December 1979.

Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged \$1.92 a pound in December. Wholesale prices for Swiss cheese were unchanged from a month earlier but 32½ cents above the previous year.

The National evaporated milk price of \$20.70 a case for December was nearly the same as in November, but almost \$2.00 higher than a year ago.

Nonfat dry milk prices increased about one-third cent from November to December, and they were nearly 10 cents more than a year earlier.

Wholesale Dairy Prices

Commodity	December 1979	November 1980	December 1980
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound . .	136.62¢	153.59¢	153.94¢
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. block, pound 1/ . . .	125.00¢	140.50¢	140.07¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block, pound 1/	159.50¢	192.00¢	192.00¢
National evaporated milk, case, 48 13-fluid-oz. cans	\$18.72	\$20.68	\$20.70
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound	83.87¢	93.33¢	93.63¢

1/Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points.

AMERICAN CHEESE AND BUTTER PRODUCTION CONTINUES HIGHER

Weekly estimates for December indicated that production of American cheese and butter in Wisconsin and the Nation continued above a year earlier. The Nation's butter production for December was up about 14 percent from December 1979. During the first eleven months of 1980, the National butter output increased 16 percent. Wisconsin's butter production in December was also substantially above the previous year, following an increase of 13 percent for January through November.

American cheese production in the Nation during December was about 13 percent more than a year earlier. For January through November, the National output of American cheese was up 7 percent from that period in 1979. Production of American cheese in Wisconsin during December was well above a year ago. The State's production of American cheese for January through November was 6 percent higher than in that period of 1979.

Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output

Periods	Butter			American Cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production 1980	Change from last year	Change from last year	Production 1980	Change from last year	Change from last year
	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
November	84,929	+ 12	+ 2	177,224	+ 10	+ 9
Jan.-Nov.	1,040,374	+ 16	+ 13	2,153,430	+ 7	+ 6
Weeks ending						
Dec. 4	22,900	+ 25	+ 14	44,700	+ 20	+ 17
Dec. 11	20,800	+ 22	+ 11	43,200	+ 19	+ 18
Dec. 18	21,000	+ 22	+ 12	43,500	+ 14	+ 13
Dec. 25	20,600	+ 3	+ 3	45,500	+ 5	+ 8
Jan. 1	25,500	+ 3	+ 13	49,900	+ 7	+ 9
Total	110,800	+ 14	XXX	226,800	+ 13	XXX

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX LOWER IN DECEMBER

The index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers as of mid-December was down 2 points from the previous month due to lower prices for most livestock and crops. At 293 percent of the 1967 base, the index of prices received was 36 points (14 percent) above December 1979. Higher costs for feed, fuel, and family living items pushed the index of prices paid up 2 points from November to December. The prices paid index for December was 12 percent more than a year earlier.

Milk cow prices continued to increase. At an average of \$1,230.00 per head in mid-December, milk cows were up \$30.00 from November and \$150.00 higher than the previous year. Calves brought an average of \$88.00 a hundredweight in December, a decline of \$4.00 from November and \$25.00 under a year ago. This was the lowest price for calves since January 1979.

Steers and heifers averaged \$58.00 a hundredweight for December, down \$2.20 from a month earlier and \$6.00 below December 1979. Slaughter cows returned an average of \$41.80 a hundredweight in December, a drop of \$2.80 from the previous month and \$5.50 less than a year earlier.

Hog prices averaged \$44.00 a hundredweight as of mid-December, down 90 cents from November but \$6.60 above December 1979.

Sheep prices increased \$3.00 from November to December. At \$17.50 a hundredweight, sheep were \$1.30 under a year ago. Lambs averaged \$55.00 a hundredweight, a decline of \$3.00 from November and \$8.00 below December 1979.

Eggs averaged 58 cents a dozen in mid-December, the highest price in 1980. Eggs increased about 2 cents from November but were 4 cents less than a year earlier. Turkeys brought 49 cents a pound liveweight in December, down 1 cent from November but 1 cent more than the previous year.

Prices for corn and oats were up in December but other crops were lower. Corn averaged \$3.07 a bushel as of mid-December, the first time since January 1975 that corn prices averaged over \$3.00 a bushel. Corn was up 9 cents from November and 77 cents above December 1979.

Oats returned an average of \$1.65 a bushel in December, a record high. Oats increased 7 cents from the previous month and were up 30 cents from a year ago. Wheat averaged \$4.21

a bushel in mid-December, down 17 cents from November but 67 cents higher than December 1979.

Soybean prices dropped sharply from November to December. At \$7.25 a bushel in December, soybeans were \$1.05 under the previous month but \$1.50 above a year earlier.

Baled alfalfa hay averaged \$41.00 a ton in December, a decline of \$1.00 from November but \$11.00 more than the previous year.

FARM NUMBERS STEADY

The number of farms in Wisconsin as of January 1, 1981 was estimated at 93,000, unchanged from the revised estimate for January 1, 1980. This was the first time since 1947 that Wisconsin farm numbers did not decline. A farm is defined to be a place with an annual sale of agricultural products of \$1,000 or more.

A strong dairy industry, a good crop production in 1980, increased grain prices, and a weak nonfarm economy were some of the factors which helped keep farm numbers steady. A Farmland Preservation Program has also provided tax credit incentives for farmers to keep land in agricultural production. The percent of farmland being diverted to other uses in 1979 was the lowest since the Agricultural Land Sales report began in 1973. A count of dairy herds through the Brucellosis Ring Test reports showed the smallest decline in 1980 since the reports began in 1951.

Farm numbers in Wisconsin declined at a slower rate during the 1970's than the 1960's when the annual reduction was usually 3,000 farms. The current number of farms is less than half of the peak of 200,000 farms reached in 1935. Farm numbers are now the lowest since the 1860's.

Land in farms was estimated at 18.6 million acres as of January 1, 1981, also unchanged from a year ago. Over 5 million acres have been removed from agriculture since 1942

Number of Farms and Land in Farms
Wisconsin and United States, 1950-81 1/

Year	Wisconsin			United States		
	No. of farms	Average size	Land in farms	No. of farms	Average size	Land in farms
	Thous.	Acres	Mil. acres	Thous.	Acres	Mil. acres
1950	174	136	23.6	5,648	213	1,202.0
1955	155	150	23.2	4,654	258	1,201.9
1960	138	161	22.2	3,963	297	1,175.6
1961	136	163	22.1	3,825	305	1,167.7
1962	133	165	22.0	3,692	314	1,159.4
1963	130	168	21.8	3,572	322	1,151.6
1964	127	170	21.6	3,457	332	1,146.1
1965	124	173	21.4	3,356	340	1,139.6
1966	121	175	21.2	3,257	348	1,131.8
1967	118	177	20.9	3,162	355	1,123.5
1968	115	179	20.6	3,071	363	1,115.2
1969	112	181	20.3	3,000	369	1,107.8
1970	110	183	20.1	2,949	374	1,102.4
1971	108	184	19.9	2,902	378	1,096.9
1972	107	185	19.8	2,860	382	1,092.1
1973	106	186	19.7	2,823	385	1,087.9
1974	105	187	19.6	2,795	388	1,084.4
1975 2/. . .	100	193	19.3	2,521	420	1,059.4
1976	98	195	19.1	2,497	422	1,054.1
1977	96	197	18.9	2,456	427	1,047.8
1978	95	198	18.8	2,436	429	1,044.8
1979	94	199	18.7	2,430	429	1,043.2
1980	93	200	18.6	2,428	429	1,042.2
1981 3/. . .	93	200	18.6	2,419	430	1,041.4

1/Including Alaska and Hawaii. 2/Estimates from 1975 on include places with annual sales of agricultural products of \$1,000 or more. 3/Preliminary.

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	Month of Dec. 1978	Month of Dec. 1979	Nov. 15 1980	Dec. 15 1980
Dollars					
Milk cows	Head	845.00	1,080.00	1,200.00	1,230.00
Steers and heifers .	Cwt.	50.00	64.00	60.20	58.00
Cows, slaughter . .	Cwt.	42.00	47.30	44.60	41.80
Calves	Cwt.	68.50	113.00	92.00	88.00
Hogs	Cwt.	47.90	37.40	44.90	44.00
Sheep	Cwt.	20.02	18.80	14.50	17.50
Lambs	Cwt.	65.10	63.00	58.00	55.00
Turkeys	Lb.	.510	.480	.500	.490
Eggs	Doz.	.559	.620	.562	.580
Corn	Bu.	1.98	2.30	2.98 1/	3.07
Wheat	Bu.	3.02	3.54	4.38	4.21
Oats	Bu.	1.09	1.35	1.58 1/	1.65
Soybeans	Bu.	6.26	5.75	8.30	7.25
Alfalfa hay, baled	Ton	36.00	30.00	42.00	41.00

1/Average for the month.

when a high of 24 million acres was in Wisconsin farmland. As farm numbers declined, the average size of a Wisconsin farm increased from a low of 113 acres in 1925 to 200 acres by 1981.

There were 2,418,740 farms in the United States as of January 1, 1981. This was a decline of less than one-half percent from a year earlier, continuing the slow decline of recent years. Land in farms totaled 1,041 million acres on January 1, down one-tenth of a percent from the previous year. The average size of the Nation's farms increased to 430 acres.

1980 CROP SUMMARY

The crop production index for 1980 averaged 124 percent of the 1967 base year. This was 1 point below 1979. Both soybeans and corn for grain had record high production due to increased acreage and very good yields. Oat yields were up in 1980 but poor combining conditions resulted in a greater abandonment of acreage. Hay production was nearly comparable to 1979 as a large third crop offset a smaller than normal first crop. Tobacco production declined when bad weather lowered the number of acres harvested. Production of potatoes and processed vegetables fell in 1980 with a reduction of acreage. The apple, strawberry, and cranberry crops were large, but the cherry crop was lower than in 1979. Excessive rainfall sharply reduced the production of mint, carrots, and lettuce.

Wisconsin farmers planted a record corn acreage of 4,200,000 acres in 1980, an increase of 4 percent from 1979. Corn for grain was harvested from 3,350,000 acres in 1980, up 9 percent from the previous year due to early planting and

the difficulty of getting into some fields that were intended for silage. Yields of corn for grain averaged 104 bushels per acre, 1 bushel more than in 1979 and equal to the record high in 1977. Production of corn for grain totaled 348.4 million bushels in 1980, an increase of 10 percent from 1979. Silage was harvested from only 775,000 acres, 14 percent below 1979 and the lowest on record since 1924. Yields of silage at 12.2 tons per acre were nearly comparable to the past three years, but production for 1980 was down 12 percent from the previous year.

Although 1,120,000 acres were planted to oats in 1980, only 963,000 acres were harvested for grain as abandonment was greater than normal. Yields averaged 61 bushels per acre, up 4 bushels from 1979. Production totaled 58.7 million bushels in 1980, an increase of 5 percent from the previous year.

Winter wheat was harvested from 88,000 acres in 1980, more than double the 38,000 acres harvested in 1979. Yields averaged 41.5 bushels per acre, a decline of 1.5 bushels from 1979. Production of winter wheat totaled 3,652,000 bushels, the highest on record dating back to 1909. Spring wheat production amounted to 713,000 bushels, up 35 percent from 1979 as increased acreage offset lower yields. The 1.5 million bushels of barley produced in 1980 were 30 percent more than the previous year. Barley yields averaged a record high of 59 bushels per acre, up 10 bushels from 1979. There were 26,000 acres of barley harvested in 1980, an increase of 2,000 acres from 1979. Rye production for 1980 totaled 368,000 bushels, equal to 1979 as acreage and yield remained unchanged.

Crop Summary of Wisconsin for 1980

Crop	Acreage			Yield per acre			Unit	Production		
	1978	1979	1980	1978	1979	1980		1978	1979	1980
	Thousands							Thousands		
FIELD CROPS:										
Corn for grain	3,000	3,080	3,350	98.0	103.0	104.0	Bu.	294,000	317,240	348,400
Oats	1,120	980	963	56.0	57.0	61.0	Bu.	62,720	55,860	58,743
Barley	27	24	26	49.0	49.0	59.0	Bu.	1,323	1,176	1,534
Rye	17	16	16	21.0	23.0	23.0	Bu.	357	368	368
Wheat (all)	45	54	111	34.7	40.0	39.3	Bu.	1,560	2,162	4,365
Winter	33	38	88	36.0	43.0	41.5	Bu.	1,188	1,634	3,652
Spring	12	16	23	31.0	33.0	31.0	Bu.	372	528	713
Soybeans for beans	215	295	330	32.0	34.0	33.0	Bu.	6,880	10,030	10,890
Potatoes (fall)	55.0	54.0	50.0	315	315	320	Cwt.	17,325	17,010	16,000
Tobacco (all)	12.1	12.9	12.8	1,678	1,942	1,898	Lb.	20,305	25,050	24,300
Type 54	6.2	6.3	6.2	1,800	2,080	1,950	Lb.	11,160	13,104	12,090
Type 55	5.9	6.6	6.6	1,550	1,810	1,850	Lb.	9,145	11,946	12,210
Peppermint	8.2	9.0	7.2	34	35	30	Lb.	279	315	216
Spearmint	3.8	4.4	3.9	37	42	39	Lb.	141	185	152
HAY AND FORAGE:										
Hay (all)	4,000	4,030	3,900	2.91	3.12	3.22	Ton	11,635	12,555	12,545
Alfalfa and mixture	3,100	3,100	3,050	3.10	3.30	3.50	Ton	9,610	10,230	10,675
All other	900	930	850	2.25	2.50	2.20	Ton	2,025	2,325	1,870
VEGETABLE CROPS:										
Carrots 1/	3.7	4.5	3.8	413	417	296	Cwt.	1,529	1,878	1,125
Cabbage	1.6	1.7	1.6	381	374	304	Cwt.	609	635	486
Lettuce	1.2	1.1	.6	215	215	210	Cwt.	258	237	126
Onions, commercial	1.5	1.5	1.2	295	290	290	Cwt.	443	435	348
For processing:										
Green lima beans	6.4	6.9	4.8	.94	1.06	1.02	Ton 2/	6.0	7.3	4.9
Peas	97.0	109.6	101.1	1.12	1.62	1.52	Ton 2/	108.7	177.6	153.7
Snap beans	68.0	79.3	78.8	2.77	2.68	2.68	Ton	188.4	212.5	211.2
Sweet corn	110.8	121.4	106.1	4.55	4.73	4.84	Ton	504.2	574.2	513.5
Cucumbers for pickles	11.1	10.3	9.5	5.50	6.21	5.65	Ton	61.1	64.0	53.7
Beets for canning	7.6	8.1	5.3	12.37	12.86	14.68	Ton	94.0	104.2	77.8
Cabbage for kraut	3.2	3.1	2.9	18.61	23.49	21.95	Ton	59.6	72.8	63.7
FRUITS:										
Apples, commercial	—	—	—	—	—	—	Lb.	66,000	54,000	65,000
Tart cherries	—	—	—	—	—	—	Lb.	11,500	14,600	12,100
Cranberries	—	—	—	—	—	—	Bbl.	822	901	1,080

1/Including portion processed. 2/Shelled.

Hay was harvested from 3.9 million acres in 1980, a reduction of 130,000 acres from 1979. Alfalfa yields averaged a record high of 3.5 tons per acre compared with 3.3 tons in 1979. Yields for other hay at 2.2 tons per acre were down from the average of 2.5 tons in 1979. The large third crop offset a smaller first crop, and the total 1980 hay production of 12.5 million tons was about equal to the previous year.

Soybean production totaled a record high of 10.9 million bushels for 1980, up 9 percent from 1979. Soybeans were harvested from 330,000 acres in 1980, an increase of 12 percent from 1979. Yields averaged 33 bushels per acre, 1 bushel less than the previous year.

A total of 13,500 acres of tobacco was planted in 1980, an increase of 500 acres from 1979. However, the rough weather conditions limited harvested acreage to 12,800 acres for 1980. This was 100 acres less than harvested in 1979. Production of tobacco for 1980 was estimated at 24.3 million pounds, a decline of 3 percent from 1979.

The 50,000 acres of potatoes harvested in 1980 were 4,000 acres less than the previous year. Yields averaged 320 hundredweight per acre, up slightly from 1979. Production of potatoes totaled 16 million hundredweight in 1980, down 6 percent from 1979.

Production of eight principal vegetables for processing in Wisconsin during 1980 was down 11 percent from 1979. Harvested acreage of these crops declined by 30,220 acres. Yields per acre were up for beets and sweet corn but lower for most other crops. Fresh market vegetable production in 1980 was reduced sharply by excessive rainfall in August and September.

The 1980 cherry crop of 12.1 million pounds was 17 percent less than harvested in 1979. Apple production totaled 65 million pounds, up 11 million pounds from the short 1979 crop. The strawberry crop totaled 57,000 hundredweight in 1980, an increase of 21 percent from 1979 and the highest since 1962. Production of cranberries in 1980 was a record high of 1,080,000 barrels, 20 percent more than the 1979 crop.

Production of mint for oil amounted to 368,000 pounds in 1980, a decline of 26 percent from 1979 as heavy rains in August reduced the yields and lowered harvested acreage. Maple syrup production in 1980 totaled 110,000 gallons, 20 percent above the 1979 output.

PLANTING INTENTIONS SURVEY CONDUCTED IN 16 STATES

A total of 16 states were surveyed as of January 1 regarding their 1981 planting intentions. These states indicated a decline of 2 percent in corn acreage but an increase of 1 percent for soybeans. The major corn and soybean states in the Midwest were not surveyed for the January report, but they will be included on a March 1 survey. In the 16 states surveyed, acreage of oats is expected to be up 3 percent while acreage for both hay and peanuts could increase 4 percent.

A second prospective plantings report based on a March 1 survey of growers in 32 northern states will be issued March 19th. The March report will also include estimates for durum and spring wheat, sunflowers, tobacco, sugarbeets, and other crops in addition to the crops published in the January report.

Planted Acreage, Selected Crops, 1981 Intentions
Compared with 1980 Planted Acreage, United States

Crop	1980	1981	Change from last year
	1,000 acres		Percent
FIELD CORN			
States surveyed	10,830	10,657	- 2
States not surveyed . . .	73,276		
SOYBEANS			
States surveyed	27,125	27,425	+ 1
States not surveyed . . .	42,962		
OATS 1/			
States surveyed	2,713	2,785	+ 3
States not surveyed . . .	10,647		
BARLEY 1/			
States surveyed	1,288	1,211	- 6
States not surveyed . . .	6,995		
HAY 2/			
States surveyed	13,848	14,386	+ 4
States not surveyed . . .	45,589		
COTTON			
States surveyed	14,312	14,128	- 1
States not surveyed . . .	246		
PEANUTS			
States surveyed	1,542	1,609	+ 4

1/Includes acres planted in preceding fall. 2/Acres for harvest.

CATTLE ON FEED DOWN IN NATION

Cattle and calves on feed in the 23 major feeding states totaled 11.1 million head January 1, a decline of 5 percent from a year ago. Wisconsin had 115,000 head on feed, 3 percent more than on January 1, 1980.

Placements of cattle and calves on feed in the 23 states during October through December were 9 percent fewer than a year earlier. Fed cattle marketings in the last quarter of 1980 were down 1 percent from that quarter in 1979. Cattle feeders intend to market 6.3 million head during the first quarter of 1981. This would be an increase of 2 percent from a year earlier.

Cattle and Calves on Feed by Quarters
January 1, 1981 with Comparisons 1/

State	Jan. 1 1979	Jan. 1 1980	Oct. 1 1980	Jan. 1 1981	Change from last year
	1,000 head				Percent
Arizona	490	420	317	401	- 5
California	796	764	614	677	-11
Colorado	1,080	960	740	845	-12
Idaho	224	260	239	249	- 4
Illinois	510	460	410	510	+11
Indiana	280	250	220	280	+12
Iowa	1,620	1,390	1,120	1,370	- 1
Kansas	1,440	1,270	1,200	1,100	-13
Michigan	180	165	130	160	- 3
Minnesota	400	390	310	370	- 5
Missouri	180	120	80	105	-12
Montana	80	57	39	64	+12
Nebraska	1,800	1,680	1,430	1,640	- 2
New Mexico	202	239	164	186	-22
North Dakota	34	39	32	37	- 5
Ohio	225	180	120	160	-11
Oklahoma	345	330	295	325	- 2
Oregon	75	73	50	75	+ 3
Pennsylvania	86	79	50	78	- 1
South Dakota	340	350	305	355	+ 1
Texas	2,000	1,970	1,830	1,830	- 7
Washington	188	155	165	173	+12
Wisconsin	106	112	105	115	+ 3
23 States	12,681	11,713	9,965	11,105	- 5

1/Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fattened for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates which are expected to produce a carcass that will grade good or better.

Placements of cattle on feed in Wisconsin during October through November were up 5 percent from that period in 1979. The State marketed 25 percent more fed cattle in the last quarter of 1980 compared to the previous year. Marketings for January through March of this year are expected to be up 34 percent.

RED MEAT STOCKS UP BUT POULTRY STOCKS LOWER

Total stocks of red meat in cold storage at the end of 1980 were 5 percent more than a year ago. Pork stocks at 350 million pounds on December 31 were up 25 percent from that date in 1979. This offset declines of 8 percent for beef, 16 percent for veal, and 14 percent for lamb and mutton.

Total poultry stocks at the end of 1980 were 12 percent under a year earlier. The 200 million pounds of turkeys in cold storage were 17 percent less than on December 31, 1979. Stocks of frozen chicken were down 4 percent.

**Cold Storage Stocks of Red Meat and Poultry
United States, December 31, 1980, and Comparisons**

Commodity	Dec. 31 1978	Dec. 31 1979	Nov. 30 1980	Dec. 31 1980	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds				Percent
FROZEN MEAT					
Beef	405,351	350,334	280,063	323,862	- 8
Pork	241,806	280,847	322,033	350,062	+ 25
Veal	9,093	10,251	7,398	8,638	-16
Lamb and mutton	11,716	10,751	9,737	9,241	-14
CANNED MEATS IN COOLER					
Hams	39,049	36,819	47,034	38,965	+ 6
Other meats	16,543	17,216	14,768	13,526	-21
Total red meat 1/.	723,558	706,218	681,033	744,294	+ 5
FROZEN POULTRY					
Chicken, all	101,888	142,100	139,599	137,085	- 4
Turkeys, all	175,097	240,039	257,318	199,707	-17
Total poultry 2/.	280,138	386,944	401,778	341,477	-12

1/Excludes cooler beef and cooler pork. 2/Includes frozen ducks.

FEEDER PIG PRICES INCREASE

Wisconsin farmers reported paying an average of \$78.00 per one hundred pounds of feeder pigs in November. This was an increase of \$7.00 from the August price and \$24.00

above a year earlier. The November 1980 feeder pig price was the highest for any quarter since May 1979.

Wisconsin Feeder Pig Prices 1/

Year	February	May	August	November
	Dollars per cwt.			
1970	52.50	62.80	47.00	31.50
1971	22.90	30.00	31.90	34.90
1972	45.10	54.00	58.30	58.80
1973	60.50	77.20	86.20	80.20
1974	76.80	71.00	43.00	44.50
1975	57.50	91.00	99.50	120.00
1976	100.00	110.00	82.50	52.00
1977	57.50	86.00	86.50	86.50
1978	86.00	114.00	106.00	113.00
1979	106.00	99.00	60.00	54.00
1980	70.00	55.50	71.00	78.00

1/Prior to 1979, the data were published for the months of January, April, July and October.

DECEMBER CATTLE SLAUGHTER BELOW A YEAR EARLIER

Cattle slaughter in Wisconsin during December numbered 90,400 head, down 11 percent from December 1979. Federally inspected cow slaughter declined 4 percent, while the kill of steers and heifers was 24 percent under the previous year.

There were 195,000 hogs butchered in Wisconsin during December, about the same as a year earlier. The calf kill for December was up 7 percent.

Livestock slaughter in the Nation during December was above a year ago for all species.

FED STEER PRICE UP

Prices for good and choice fed steers weighing 1,100 to 1,500 pounds averaged \$57.93 a hundredweight at Wisconsin auction markets during December. This was an increase of \$1.72 from November and 11 cents higher than a year earlier.

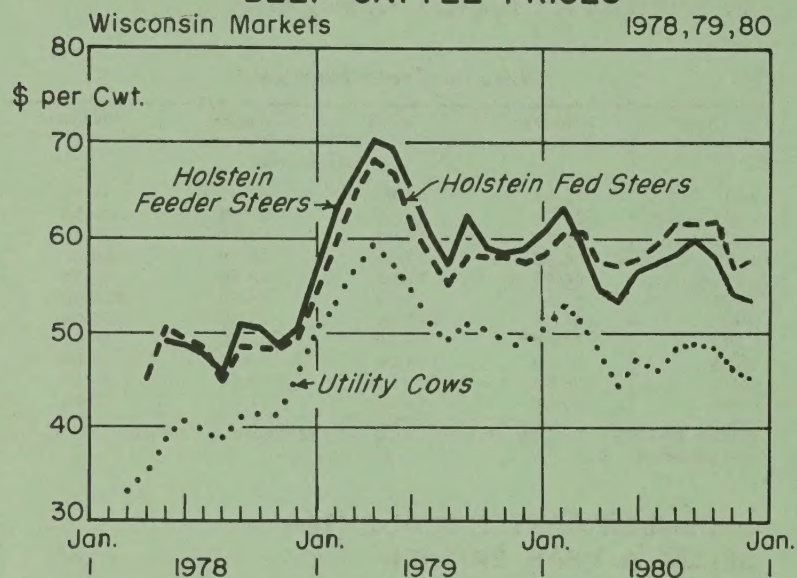
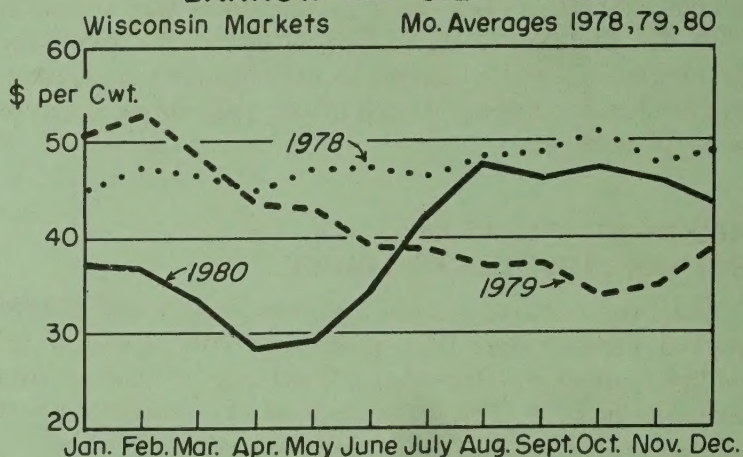
Large frame number two feeder steers weighing 800 to 1,000 pounds averaged \$53.83 a hundredweight in December, a decline of 51 cents from the previous month and \$5.29 below December 1979.

Utility cows averaged \$45.19 a hundredweight for December, down 87 cents from November and \$3.03 under the previous year.

Commercial Slaughter, December 1979 and 1980, Wisconsin and United States 1/

Species and area	Number slaughtered						Total liveweight		
	December			January - December			December		
	1979	1980	Change from last year 2/	1979	1980	Change from last year 2/	1979	1980	Change from last year 2/
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	Million pounds		Percent
WISCONSIN									
Cattle, all	101.4	90.4	-11	1,023.8	1,142.4	+ 12	120.2	106.5	-11
Cows 3/	49.8	47.7	- 4	491.2	535.4	+ 9	-	-	-
Steers and heifers 3/	36.9	28.0	-24	372.0	441.6	+ 19	-	-	-
Calves	33.8	36.3	+ 7	346.9	389.3	+ 12	6.5	8.1	+ 24
Hogs, all	195.3	195.0	n. c.	2,177.8	2,295.6	+ 5	46.4	47.3	+ 2
Sows 3/.	2.9	3.5	+ 21	33.9	28.7	-15	-	-	-
Sheep and lambs4	.6	+ 50	5.5	6.6	+ 20	45 4/	63 4/	+ 40
UNITED STATES									
Cattle, all	2,653	2,927	+ 10	33,678	33,804	n. c.	2,861	3,152	+ 10
Cows 3/	494	582	+ 18	5,546	5,924	+ 7	-	-	-
Heifers 3/	665	781	+ 17	9,112	8,979	- 1	-	-	-
Steers 3/	1,265	1,308	+ 3	16,258	16,059	- 1	-	-	-
Calves	216	240	+ 11	2,824	2,589	- 8	51	58	+ 15
Hogs, all	7,636	8,192	+ 7	89,099	96,076	+ 8	1,877	2,018	+ 8
Sows 3/.	493	440	-11	4,793	5,162	+ 8	-	-	-
Sheep and lambs	403	485	+ 20	5,017	5,574	+ 11	47	56	+ 20

1/Excludes farm slaughter. 2/Percent change based on unrounded values. 3/Federally inspected only. 4/Expressed in thousands.

BEEF CATTLE PRICES**BARROW and GILT PRICES****HOG MARKET DROPS**

Prices paid for barrows and gilts at Wisconsin packing plants and country buying stations averaged \$43.92 a hundred-weight during December. This was a drop of \$2.11 from November and the lowest price since July 1980. However, the December price for barrows and gilts was \$5.51 above a year earlier.

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